

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

1. Program Title: National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Self Monitoring Program
2. Lead Agency/Department for Program: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
3. Brief Description of Program: The NPDES Wastewater Program has responsibility for regulating wastewater discharges to surface waters. Primary program activities include: (1) issuing NPDES permits (new and renewals), (2) monitoring discharger compliance with permit requirements (review of discharger self-monitoring reports and compliance inspections), (3) taking enforcement action as appropriate (Notices of Violations, Mandatory Minimum Penalties, etc.), (4) investigating spills and illegal discharges and (5) handling petitions and litigation.
4. Purpose and Objectives of Program: The purpose of the program is to regulate and restrict the amount of pollutants discharged into surface water. There are 15 NPDES facilities located in the delta and 40 upstream (below major dams) in the Central Valley. 11 of the 15 NPDES facilities in the delta are publically owned treatment works (POTWs). All dischargers conduct self monitoring of their effluent, some also monitor the receiving water both upstream and downstream of their discharge. Acceptable discharge limits are based on self monitoring reports and water quality objectives and implementation programs and policies in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins. Typical effluent limits in POTWs include pH, temperature, electrical conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, acute and chronic toxicity, total residual chlorine, total coliform organisms, ammonia, and trace metals.
5. Timeline for Program Objectives: All permits are reviewed and renewed by the Regional Board in a public hearing on a 5-year schedule after a review of self-monitoring results and new Basin Plan regulations.
6. Current Status of Program: Ongoing and active
7. Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:

Name	Diana Messina
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8. Associated Total Annual Budget for Program: The cost of monitoring is Discharger specific, and we were unable to estimate it within the time given. If you are still interested in this later, please contact Diana Messina.
9. URL, if a Website is Available: Discharger-Specific Orders are organized by county and discharger name at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/
10. How does adaptive management play a role in your program? Each permit is reviewed and readopted in a public hearing by the Regional Board every five years.
11. Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program: